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In recognition of comments made during the interview, the present supplemental amendment adds claims that are written in different format than those originally submitted, and which positively recite patentable distinctions. For example, the claims submitted herewith recite a system which includes two different kinds of software, one of which is a management software or a rental vehicle software program and the other of which is an integrated business software or fulfillment software. The antecedent basis for these terms are found in the specification. The management software provides the means for processing reservations placed by an authorized purchaser, including transmitting it on to the integrated business software of one of a plurality of service providers. The management software allows an authorized purchaser to place reservations with multiple service providers through a single web site, creating a single data base for reservations placed with multiple vendors from which reports may be created and from which billing and payment functions may be performed. Also, the ability to modify the reservation is provided, as would be necessary in a high transaction environment where many reservations are made, such as in a business to business application. On the other hand, the integrated business or fulfillment software is akin to the FlowMark software found in the Brandt et al patent, and which is resident on the provider's computer. As explained in the prior amendment, Brandt et al teach a system providing web browser access by a user to the integrated business software of a service provider. This is also similar to the multiple web sites, such as Travelocity, or even the direct web sites such as operated by applicant itself at www.enterprise.com where consumers may directly go to make their own reservations. However, Brandt et al do not teach or suggest a second layer of software, or a management software, through which an authorized purchaser places the reservation, with that management software providing the many capabilities claimed herein. For example, should a user of the Brandt et al system desire to place reservations with more than one provider, the user must "web surf" over to another provider's web site and make a separate reservation there. In that process, a separate record is made in that second provider's data base, and no single data base collects data on both reservations from which reports may be generated. Nor is there any capability in the application software for a user to be invoiced and pay for a reservation. There are still other differences between Brandt et al and the claimed invention, some of which have been previously pointed out in the prior amendment. However, the claims presented herein are considered to more distinctly point out those patentable differences and the Examiner's re-consideration is respectfully requested.

Nor is there any suggestion that Brandt et al should be modified in the manner taught by the present invention, to provide this additional layer of software. Indeed, Brandt et al provide their own solution to making reservations to multiple providers, that of web surfing over to the multiple web sites of those providers. Although reference has been made to the teaching at col. 7, line 24 et seq. as suggesting other system configurations, that comment is respectfully traversed. The text found there refers to Fig. 1, and suggests that the actual number of workstations 170 attached to the system "will be a function of

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system design and user preference." Referring to Fig. 1, a single system architecture is taught, and the referenced comment is only seen as teaching or suggesting that that same architecture can be extended by adding additional terminals or workstations 170. This is not the same as teaching or suggesting that a completely different architecture, with an additional computer system and management software, could be used or would be desirable as taught by applicant. Simply put, Brandt et al do not disclose, teach or suggest the claimed invention having an additional layer of software, management software, nor providing the additional functionality of that additional system element. For these reasons, the claims presented herein are fully patentable over the art, and a speedy allowance is respectfully requested.

In order to expedite further prosecution of the present application, the Examiner is requested to telephone applicant's undersigned representative upon receipt and consideration of both amendments so that any last minute changes may be conveniently entered, perhaps with Examiner's amendment.

Respectfully submitted,

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CLAIMS AS AMENDED

51. (new) An internet enabled automatic rental vehicle reservation system, said system having an Internet web site for an authorized purchaser to access a rental vehicle software program resident on a computer system, said rental vehicle software program having means for automatically responding to a series of commands from said authorized purchaser and communicating a rental vehicle reservation to a computer for one of a plurality of providers of said rental vehicle services, said rental vehicle service provider computer being programmed with an integrated business software having means for offering rental vehicles for filling said reservation, said rental vehicle software program having means for managing the authorizing, processing and billing of said rental vehicle reservation so that a rental vehicle reservation may be automatically processed thereby for at least said one rental vehicle service provider.

52. (new) The rental vehicle reservation system of claim 51 wherein said authorized purchaser comprises a business organization, said business organization having a plurality of authorized purchasers, said plurality of authorized purchasers being enabled to access said Internet web site from any location offering Internet web access, and wherein said at least one rental vehicle service provider further comprising a second business organization, said second business organization comprising a plurality of diverse rental vehicle locations.

53. (new) The rental vehicle reservation system of claim 52 wherein the rental vehicle software program has means for accepting a remotely initiated reservation and communicating it to the authorized purchaser for authorization.

54. (new) The rental vehicle reservation system of claim 53 wherein the rental vehicle software program has means for an authorized purchaser to modify said reservation.

55. (new) The rental vehicle reservation system of claim 54 wherein the rental vehicle software program has means for an authorized purchaser to extend the authorization for said reservation.

56. (new) The rental vehicle reservation system of claim 52 wherein the rental vehicle software program has means for an authorized purchaser to generate reports relating to reservation activity conducted through said rental vehicle software program.

57. (new) The rental vehicle reservation system of claim 56 wherein said rental vehicle reservation system comprises a computer network having a main frame computer and wherein said rental

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vehicle service provider computer comprises a computer network having a main frame computer, said
main frame computers being linked to each other, and wherein said second computer system further
comprises a WAN.

58. (new) A computer software program having means for providing an Internet site for access
by a multi-level business organization to a plurality of service providers including one such service
provider having it own computer system programmed with integrated business software, said computer
software program having means for managing service reservations placed to said service provider's
integrated business software and for fulfillment thereby, said computer software program having means
for managing reservations placed therethrough including administrative control and accounting for said
reservations.

59. (new) The computer software program of claim 58 wherein said computer software program
has means for providing access to an authorized purchaser for placing said reservations, said authorized
purchaser comprising the multi-level business organization.

60. (new) The computer software program of claim 59 wherein said at least one service provider
comprises a multi-level business organization, said computer software program having means for
providing communication between multiple levels of each business organization.

61. (new) The computer software program of claim 60 further comprising a first computer
network, said computer software being resident on said first computer network, a second computer
network, said integrated business software being resident on said second computer network, each of said
computer networks having a main frame computer, said main frame computers being linked to each other
and wherein said second computer system comprises a WAN.

62. (new) A method for managing reservations placed between a first multi-level business
organization purchaser and a plurality of service providers, at least one of said service providers
comprising a multi-level business service provider organization, said multi-level business service provider
having a computer system programmed with an integrated business software for fulfillment of said
reservations, the method comprising:
     providing a computer system, said computer system being programmed with reservation
management software having means for providing internet access thereto by said multi-level purchaser,

accepting reservations entered by said purchaser into said reservation management software and communicating at least some of them to the service provider's integrated business software for fulfillment, and

storing data for use by said reservation management software relating to the reservations processed thereby, said data thereby being available for management of said reservations including the invoicing and payment therefor.

63. (new) The method of claim 62 further comprising the step of enabling the purchaser to modify any reservation placed into said reservation management software.

64. (new) The method of claim 63 further comprising the step of generating reports summarizing the reservations placed by a purchaser through said management software.

65. (new) An internet enabled automatic rental vehicle reservation system, said system having an internet web site through which an authorized purchaser of rental vehicle services has access to said system, said system including a computer system programmed with a management software program, said management software program having means for receiving reservations for vehicle rentals, said system having a link to a plurality of rental vehicle service providers including at least one service provider having an integrated business software program for processing and fulfilling said reservations.

66. (new) The internet enabled automatic rental vehicle reservation system of claim 65 wherein said management software has means for invoicing the reservations placed therethrough.

67. (new) The internet enabled automatic rental vehicle reservation system of claim 65 wherein said management software has means for the authorized purchaser to modify the reservations placed therethrough

68. (new) The internet enabled automatic rental vehicle reservation system of claim 65 wherein said management software has means for generating reports summarizing the reservations placed by the authorized purchaser therethrough.

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